

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Pinus parviflora

[Synonyms : *Pinus himekomatsu*, *Pinus morrisonicola*, *Pinus parviflora* f. *glauca*, *Pinus pentaphylla*, *Pinus pentaphylla* var. *himekomatsu*]

JAPANESE WHITE PINE is an evergreen tree. Native to central and southern Japan it has needle-like leaves and dark purplish-brown cones.

It is also known as *Borovice drobnokvětá* (Czech), Bournemouth pine, Cluster pine, Dell seeds, Five-needle pine, *Gyomatsu* (Japanese), *Hime-ko-matsu* (Japanese), Japanese five-needle pine, *Mädchen-Kiefer* (German), *Neidonmänty* (Finnish), *Penselfyr* (Danish), *Pin blanc du Japon* (French), *Pin du Japon* (French), and *Silvertall* (Swedish).

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

Warning – prolonged contact with the fresh wood can cause dermatitis and allergic breathing problems.

Parviflora is derived from Latin *parvi-* (small, little) and *-flora* (flowered) meaning ‘small flowered’

In 1861 Japanese white pine was introduced to Britain by John Gould Veitch of the nursery, Veitch and Sons – and it was introduced to North America in the same year.

A familiar sight as an ornamental tree in the Japanese landscape, it has also attracted the attentions of bonsai specialists there. It has also been grown as an ornamental in Europe.

The soft and lightweight wood has been used for building construction and shingling, as well as for making wooden tiles, wooden waterpipes, building interiors and matches. It has been sought after for carving too and has been used to make sculptures.